

REMARKS

This is a supplemental response to the Office Action mailed on May 28, 2008.

Claims 48 and 55 are currently pending in this application, with claims 48 and 55 being independent.

No new matter has been added.

Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the following remarks are courteously requested.

Entry of Amendment

Practice and procedures within the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §41.33(b) provides that Amendments filed on or after the date of filing a brief pursuant to §41.37 may be admitted:

- (1) To cancel claims, where such cancellation does not affect the scope of any other pending claim in the proceeding, or
- (2) To rewrite dependent claims into independent form.

While not conceding the propriety of the rejections made within the Final Office Action of May 28, 2008 and in order to advance the prosecution of the present application:

- Claims 25-47 have been canceled;
- Claim 48 has been placed into independent form;
- Claims 50-54 have been canceled;

- Claim 55 has been placed into independent form; and
- Claims 56-78 have been canceled.

Allowance of the remaining claims is respectfully requested.

Extensions of time

Please treat any concurrent or future reply, requiring a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge all required fees, fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17, or all required extension of time fees.

Fees-general authorization

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees filed, asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm).

If any fee is required or any overpayment made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee or credit the overpayment to Deposit Account # 18-0013.

Conclusion

This response is believed to be a complete response to the Office Action. Applicants reserve the right to set forth further arguments supporting the patentability of their claims, including the separate patentability of the dependent claims not explicitly addressed herein, in future papers.

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of the remarks is courteously solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone Brian K. Dutton, Reg. No. 47,255, at 202-955-8753.

Dated: August 27, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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